## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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An absorbent article comprising:

a stretchable substrate; and

an absorbent composite comprising a layer of adhesive composition in contact with the stretchable substrate and a layer of particulate superabsorbent material applied to and held by the adhesive composition, the absorbent composite being secured to the substrate by the adhesive composition.

- 2. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 1 wherein the stretchable substrate is a first stretchable substrate, the absorbent article further comprising a second stretchable substrate in generally superposed relationship with the first stretchable substrate whereby the absorbent composite is disposed between said first and second stretchable substrates.
- 3. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 1 wherein the layer of adhesive composition is a first layer of adhesive composition, the absorbent article further comprising a second layer of adhesive composition applied to the layer of particulate superabsorbent material.
- 4. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 3 wherein the stretchable substrate is a first stretchable substrate, the absorbent article further comprising a second stretchable substrate in generally superposed relationship with the first stretchable substrate and secured to the second layer of adhesive composition to thereby secure the absorbent composite to said second stretchable substrate.
- 5. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 1 wherein the adhesive composition comprises a hot-melt adhesive.
  - 6. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 1 wherein

the adhesive composition has a viscosity of less than about 10,000 centipoises at a temperature of less than or equal to about 400 degrees Fahrenheit (about 204 degrees Celsius).

- 7. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 6 wherein the adhesive composition has a viscosity of less than about 10,000 centipoises at a temperature of less than or equal to about 300 degrees Fahrenheit (about 149 degrees Celsius).
- 8. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 7 wherein the adhesive composition has a viscosity of less than about 10,000 centipoises at a temperature of less than or equal to about 250 degrees Fahrenheit (about 121 degrees Celsius).
- 9. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 6 wherein the adhesive composition has a viscosity in the range of about 1,000 to about 8,000 centipoises at a temperature of about 300 degrees Fahrenheit (about 149 degrees Celsius).
- 10. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 9 wherein the adhesive composition has a viscosity in the range of about 2,000 to about 6,000 centipoises at a temperature of about 300 degrees Fahrenheit (about 149 degrees Celsius).
- 11. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 1 wherein the adhesive composition has a storage modulus (G') of less than or equal to about  $1.0 \times 10^7$  dyne/cm<sup>2</sup> at 25 degrees Celsius.
- 12. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 11 wherein the adhesive composition has a storage modulus (G') in the range of about  $1.0 \times 10^5$  to about  $1.0 \times 10^6$  dyne/cm<sup>2</sup> at 25 degrees Celsius.
- 13. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 6 wherein the adhesive composition has a storage modulus (G')

of less than about 1.0x10<sup>7</sup> dyne/cm<sup>2</sup> at 25 degrees Celsius.

- 14. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 13 wherein the adhesive composition has a storage modulus (G') in the range of about  $1.0 \times 10^5$  to about  $1.0 \times 10^6$  dyne/cm<sup>2</sup> at 25 degrees Celsius.
- 15. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 1 wherein the adhesive composition has a glass transition temperature (Tg) in the range of about -25 degrees Celsius to about 25 degrees Celsius.
- 16. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 15 wherein the adhesive composition has a glass transition temperature (Tg) in the range of about -10 degrees Celsius to about 25 degrees Celsius.
- 17. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 1 wherein the absorbent composite further comprises hydrophilic fibers.
- 18. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 1 wherein the absorbent composite has a width and a length, said absorbent composite having a non-uniform basis weight across at least a portion of at least one of the width and the length of said absorbent composite.
- 19. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 1 wherein the stretchable substrate is elastic.
- 20. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 1 wherein the stretchable substrate defines an outer cover of the absorbent article, the absorbent article further comprising a liquid permeable liner in generally superposed relationship with the outer cover and adapted for contiguous relationship with the wearer's skin, the absorbent composite

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being disposed between the liner and the outer cover.

- 21. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 1 wherein the layer of adhesive composition is a first layer of adhesive composition and the layer of particulate superabsorbent material is a first layer of particulate superabsorbent material, the absorbent article further comprising a second layer of adhesive composition applied to the first layer of particulate superabsorbent material, the second layer of particulate superabsorbent material being applied to and held by the second layer of adhesive composition.
- 22. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 1 wherein the adhesive composition is hydrophilic.
- 23. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 1 wherein the adhesive composition is hydrophobic.
- 24. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 1 wherein the absorbent article has a longitudinal direction and a lateral direction, the substrate having a recovery in at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction of the article as determined by a Elongation and Recovery Test, the absorbent article having a recovery in said at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 60 percent of the recovery of the substrate in said at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction.
- 25. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 24 wherein the absorbent article has a recovery in said at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at

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- 5 least about 80 percent of the recovery of the substrate in said at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction.
  - 26. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 25 wherein the absorbent article has a recovery in said at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 90 percent of the recovery of the substrate in said at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction.
  - 27. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 24 wherein the substrate has a recovery in each of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction, the absorbent article having a recovery in each of said lateral direction and the longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 60 percent of the recovery of the substrate in the corresponding lateral direction and longitudinal direction.
  - 28. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 27 wherein the absorbent article has a recovery in each of said lateral direction and the longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 80 percent of the recovery of the substrate in the corresponding lateral direction and longitudinal direction.
  - 29. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 28 wherein the absorbent article has a recovery in each of said lateral direction and the longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 90 percent of the recovery of the substrate in the corresponding lateral direction and longitudinal

direction.

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30. An absorbent composite for an absorbent article, the absorbent composite comprising:

an adhesive composition and particulate superabsorbent material held by the adhesive composition, said adhesive composition having a viscosity of less than about 10,000 centipoises at a temperature of less than or equal to about 400 degrees Fahrenheit (about 204 degrees Celsius) and a storage modulus (G') of less than or equal to about  $1.0 \times 10^7$  dyne/cm<sup>2</sup> at 25 degrees Celsius.

- 31. An absorbent composite as set forth in claim 30 in combination with a stretchable substrate, the absorbent composite being secured to the substrate by the adhesive composition.
- 32. A combination as set forth in claim 31 further comprising a second substrate in generally superposed relationship with the stretchable substrate whereby the absorbent composite is disposed between said stretchable substrate and said second substrate.
- 33. A combination as set forth in claim 31 wherein the absorbent composite is formed on the stretchable substrate.
- 34. An absorbent composite as set forth in claim 30 wherein the absorbent composite comprises a layer of adhesive composition and a layer of particulate superabsorbent material applied to and held by the adhesive composition.
- 35. An absorbent composite as set forth in claim 34 in combination with a stretchable substrate, the layer of adhesive composition being applied to the stretchable substrate to secure the absorbent composite thereto and the layer of particulate superabsorbent material being applied to

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and held by the adhesive composition.

- 36. A combination as set forth in claim 32 wherein the second substrate is secured to the absorbent composite by the adhesive composition.
- 37. A combination as set forth in claim 36 wherein the absorbent composite comprises a first layer of adhesive composition, a first layer of particulate superabsorbent material applied to and held by the first layer of adhesive composition, and a second layer of adhesive composition applied to the first layer of particulate superabsorbent material, the stretchable substrate being secured to the absorbent composite by the first layer of adhesive composition and the second substrate being secured to the absorbent composite by the second layer of adhesive composition.
- 38. An absorbent composite as set forth in claim 30 wherein the adhesive composition comprises a hot-melt adhesive.
- 39. An absorbent composite as set forth in claim 30 wherein the adhesive composition has a viscosity of less than about 10,000 centipoises at a temperature of less than or equal to about 300 degrees Fahrenheit (about 149 degrees Celsius).
- 40. An absorbent composite as set forth in claim 39 wherein the adhesive composition has a viscosity of less than about 10,000 centipoises at a temperature of less than or equal to about 250 degrees Fahrenheit (about 121 degrees Celsius).
- 41. An absorbent composite as set forth in claim 30 wherein the adhesive composition has a viscosity in the range

of about 1,000 to about 8,000 centipoises at a temperature of about 300 degrees Fahrenheit (about 149 degrees Celsius).

- 42. An absorbent composite as set forth in claim 41 wherein the adhesive composition has a viscosity in the range of about 2,000 to about 6,000 centipoises at a temperature of about 300 degrees Fahrenheit (about 149 degrees Celsius).
- 43. An absorbent composite as set forth in claim 30 wherein the adhesive composition has a storage modulus (G') in the range of about  $1.0 \times 10^5$  to about  $1.0 \times 10^6$  dyne/cm<sup>2</sup> at 25 degrees Celsius.
- 44. An absorbent composite as set forth in claim 30 wherein the adhesive composition has a glass transition temperature (Tg) in the range of about -25 degrees Celsius to about 25 degrees Celsius.
- 45. An absorbent composite as set forth in claim 44 wherein the adhesive composition has a glass transition temperature (Tg) in the range of about -10 degrees Celsius to about 25 degrees Celsius.
- 46. An absorbent composite as set forth in claim 30 further comprising hydrophilic fibers.
- 47. An absorbent composite as set forth in claim 30 wherein the absorbent composite has a width and a length, said absorbent composite having a non-uniform basis weight across at least a portion of at least one of the width and the length of said absorbent composite.
- 48. A combination as set forth in claim 31 wherein the substrate defines an outer cover of an absorbent article, the absorbent article further comprising a liquid permeable liner in generally superposed relationship with the outer cover and

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- 5 adapted for contiguous relationship with the wearer's skin, the absorbent composite being disposed between the liner and the outer cover.
  - 49. An absorbent composite as set forth in claim 34 wherein the layer of adhesive composition is a first layer of adhesive composition and the layer of particulate superabsorbent material is a first layer of particulate superabsorbent material, the absorbent composite further comprising a second layer of adhesive composition applied to the first layer of particulate superabsorbent material, and a second layer of particulate superabsorbent material applied to and held by the second layer of adhesive composition.
  - 50. An absorbent composite as set forth in claim 30 wherein the absorbent composite comprises a mixture of adhesive composition and superabsorbent material.
  - 51. An absorbent composite as set forth in claim 30 wherein the adhesive composition is hydrophilic.
  - 52. An absorbent composite as set forth in claim 30 wherein the adhesive composition is hydrophobic.
  - 53. A combination as set forth in claim 31 wherein the absorbent composite and substrate together define an absorbent article having a longitudinal direction and a lateral direction, the substrate having a recovery in at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction of the article as determined by an Elongation and Recovery Test, the absorbent article having a recovery in said at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 60 percent of the recovery of the substrate in said at least one of the lateral

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direction and the longitudinal direction.

- 54. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 53 wherein the absorbent article has a recovery in said at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 80 percent of the recovery of the substrate in said at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction as determined by said Elongation and Recovery Test.
- 55. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 54 wherein the absorbent article has a recovery in said at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 90 percent of the recovery of the substrate in said at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction as determined by said Elongation and Recovery Test.
- 56. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 53 wherein the substrate has a recovery in each of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test, the absorbent article having a recovery in said lateral direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 60 percent of the recovery of the substrate in the lateral direction, said absorbent article further having a recovery in said longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 60 percent of the recovery of the substrate in the longitudinal direction.
  - 57. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 56 wherein the absorbent article has a recovery in the lateral

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direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 80 percent of the recovery of the substrate in the lateral direction, said absorbent article further having a recovery in said longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 80 percent of the recovery of the substrate in the longitudinal direction.

- 58. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 57 wherein the absorbent article has a recovery in the lateral direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 90 percent of the recovery of the substrate in the lateral direction, said absorbent article further having a recovery in said longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 90 percent of the recovery of the substrate in the longitudinal direction.
- 59. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 53 wherein the absorbent article has a normalized load value as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test at about 40 percent elongation thereof in at least one of the longitudinal and lateral directions of the article of less than about 400 grams-force per inch.
- 60. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 59 wherein the absorbent article has a normalized load value as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test at about 40 percent elongation thereof in at least one of the longitudinal and lateral directions of the article of less than about 200 grams-force per inch.
- 61. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 53 wherein the absorbent article has a normalized load value as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test at about 100

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percent elongation thereof in at least one of the longitudinal and lateral directions of the article of less than about 500 grams-force per inch.

- 62. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 61 wherein the absorbent article has a normalized load value as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test at about 100 percent elongation thereof in at least one of the longitudinal and lateral directions of the article of less than about 400 grams-force per inch.
- 63. A method for making an absorbent article, at least a portion of which is stretchable during use, said method comprising the steps of:

applying a layer of adhesive composition to a stretchable substrate; and

applying a layer of particulate superabsorbent material to the adhesive composition after applying the adhesive composition to the stretchable substrate.

- 64. The method set forth in claim 63 further comprising the step of applying a second layer of adhesive composition to said layer of particulate superabsorbent material after applying said layer of particulate superabsorbent material to the layer of adhesive composition applied to the substrate.
- 65. The method set forth in claim 64 wherein the stretchable substrate is a first substrate, the method further comprising positioning a second substrate in superposed relationship with the first substrate and in contact with the second layer of adhesive composition to secure the second substrate thereto.
  - 66. The method set forth in claim 65 wherein the second

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substrate is stretchable.

- 67. The method set forth in claim 63 wherein the substrate is a first substrate, the method further comprising positioning a second substrate in superposed relationship with the first substrate and in contact with the layer of particulate superabsorbent material, and securing the second substrate to the first substrate.
- 68. The method set forth in claim 63 wherein the adhesive composition is a hot-melt adhesive, the step of applying a layer of adhesive composition to the stretchable substrate comprising meltblowing said hot-melt adhesive onto said substrate.
- 69. The method set forth in claim 63 wherein the step of applying a layer of adhesive composition to a stretchable substrate comprises applying a layer of adhesive composition having a viscosity of less than about 10,000 centipoises at a temperature of less than or equal to about 400 degrees Fahrenheit (about 204 degrees Celsius) to said substrate.
- 70. The method set forth in claim 63 wherein the step of applying a layer of adhesive composition to a stretchable substrate comprises applying a layer of adhesive composition having a storage modulus (G') of less than about  $1.0 \times 10^7$  dyne/cm<sup>2</sup> at 25 degrees Celsius to said substrate.
- 71. The method set forth in claim 63 further comprising applying hydrophilic fibers to the adhesive composition after applying said adhesive composition to the stretchable substrate.
- 72. The method set forth in claim 64 further comprising the step of applying a second layer of particulate superabsorbent material to the second layer of adhesive

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composition.

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73. A method for making an absorbent article, at least a portion of which is stretchable during use, said method comprising the steps of:

forming a mixture of adhesive composition and superabsorbent material; and

applying said mixture to a stretchable substrate whereby the adhesive composition holds the superabsorbent material on the substrate.

- 74. The method set forth in claim 73 wherein the step of forming a mixture of adhesive composition and superabsorbent material comprises directed a flow of adhesive composition toward said substrate and directing a flow of particulate superabsorbent into the flow of adhesive composition for admixture therewith.
- 75. The method set forth in claim 73 wherein the stretchable substrate is a first substrate, the method further comprising positioning a second substrate in superposed relationship with the first substrate and in contact with the mixture of adhesive composition and superabsorbent material to secure the second substrate to said mixture.
- 76. The method set forth in claim 75 wherein the second substrate is stretchable.
- 77. The method set forth in claim 74 wherein the adhesive composition is a hot-melt adhesive, the step of directing a flow of adhesive composition toward the substrate comprising meltblowing said hot-melt adhesive toward said substrate.
  - 78. The method set forth in claim 74 wherein the step

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of directing a flow of adhesive composition toward the substrate comprises directing a flow of adhesive composition having a viscosity of less than about 10,000 centipoises at a temperature of less than or equal to about 400 degrees Fahrenheit (about 204 degrees Celsius) toward said substrate.

- 79. The method set forth in claim 74 wherein the step of directing a flow of adhesive composition toward the substrate comprises directing a flow of adhesive composition having a storage modulus (G') of less than about  $1.0 \times 10^7$  dyne/cm<sup>2</sup> at 25 degrees Celsius toward said substrate.
  - 80. An absorbent article comprising:
    a stretchable substrate; and

an absorbent composite secured to the stretchable substrate, said absorbent composite comprising an adhesive composition and particulate superabsorbent material, the particulate superabsorbent material being held by the adhesive composition, said absorbent composite being secured to the substrate by said adhesive composition, the absorbent article having a longitudinal direction and a lateral direction, the stretchable substrate having a recovery in at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction of the article as determined by an Elongation and Recovery Test, the absorbent article having a recovery in said at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 60 percent of the recovery of the substrate in said at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction.

81. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 80 wherein the absorbent article has a recovery in said at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction

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as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 80 percent of the recovery of the substrate in said at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction.

- 82. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 81 wherein the absorbent article has a recovery in said at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 90 percent of the recovery of the substrate in said at least one of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction.
- wherein the substrate has a recovery in each of the lateral direction and the longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test, the absorbent article having a recovery in said lateral direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 60 percent of the recovery of the substrate in the lateral direction, said absorbent article further having a recovery in said longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 60 percent of the recovery of the substrate in the longitudinal direction.
- 84. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 83 wherein the absorbent article has a recovery in the lateral direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 80 percent of the recovery of the substrate in the lateral direction, said absorbent article further having a recovery in said longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 80 percent of the recovery of the substrate in

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the longitudinal direction.

- 85. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 84 wherein the absorbent article has a recovery in the lateral direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 90 percent of the recovery of the substrate in the lateral direction, said absorbent article further having a recovery in said longitudinal direction as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test that is at least about 90 percent of the recovery of the substrate in the longitudinal direction.
- 86. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 80 wherein the adhesive composition has a viscosity of less than about 10,000 centipoises at a temperature of less than or equal to about 400 degrees Fahrenheit (about 204 degrees Celsius).
- 87. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 86 wherein the adhesive composition has a viscosity of less than about 10,000 centipoises at a temperature of less than or equal to about 300 degrees Fahrenheit (about 149 degrees Celsius).
- 88. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 87 wherein the adhesive composition has a viscosity of less than about 10,000 centipoises at a temperature of less than or equal to about 250 degrees Fahrenheit (about 121 degrees Celsius).
- 89. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 86 wherein the adhesive composition has a viscosity in the range of about 1,000 to about 8,000 centipoises at a temperature of about 300 degrees Fahrenheit (about 149 degrees Celsius).
  - 90. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 89

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wherein the adhesive composition has a viscosity in the range of about 2,000 to about 6,000 centipoises at a temperature of about 300 degrees Fahrenheit (about 149 degrees Celsius).

- 91. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 80 wherein the adhesive composition has a storage modulus (G') of less than or equal to about  $1.0 \times 10^7$  dyne/cm<sup>2</sup> at 25 degrees Celsius.
- 92. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 80 further comprising a second substrate in generally superposed relationship with the stretchable substrate whereby the absorbent composite is disposed between said stretchable substrate and said second substrate.
- 93. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 80 wherein the absorbent composite is formed on the stretchable substrate.
- 94. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 80 wherein the absorbent composite comprises a layer of adhesive composition and a layer of particulate superabsorbent material applied to and held by the adhesive composition, the stretchable substrate being secured to the absorbent composite by the layer of adhesive composition.
- 95. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 94 wherein the absorbent composite is formed on the stretchable substrate, the layer of adhesive composition being applied to the stretchable substrate and the layer of particulate superabsorbent material being applied to and held by the adhesive composition.
- 96. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 92 wherein the second substrate is secured to the absorbent composite by the adhesive composition.

- 97. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 96 wherein the absorbent composite comprises a first layer of adhesive composition, a first layer of particulate superabsorbent material applied to and held by the first layer of adhesive composition, and a second layer of adhesive composition applied to the first layer of particulate superabsorbent material, the stretchable substrate being secured to the absorbent composite by the first layer of adhesive composition and the second substrate being secured to the absorbent composite by the second layer of adhesive composition.
- 98. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 80 wherein the adhesive composition comprises a hot-melt adhesive.
- 99. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 86 wherein the adhesive composition has a viscosity in the range of about 1,000 to about 8,000 centipoises at a temperature of about 300 degrees Fahrenheit (149 degrees Celsius).
- 100. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 99 wherein the adhesive composition has a viscosity in the range of about 2,000 to about 6,000 centipoises at a temperature of about 300 degrees Fahrenheit (149 degrees Celsius).
- 101. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 91 wherein the adhesive composition has a storage modulus (G') in the range of about  $1.0 \times 10^5$  to about  $1.0 \times 10^6$  dyne/cm<sup>2</sup> at 25 degrees Celsius.
- 102. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 80 wherein the adhesive composition has a glass transition temperature (Tg) in the range of about -25 degrees Celsius to about 25 degrees Celsius.

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- 103. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 102 wherein the adhesive composition has a glass transition temperature (Tg) in the range of about -10 degrees Celsius to about 25 degrees Celsius.
- 104. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 80 wherein the absorbent composite further comprises hydrophilic fibers.
- 105. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 80 wherein the absorbent composite has a width and a length, said absorbent composite having a non-uniform basis weight across at least a portion of at least one of the width and the length of said absorbent composite.
- 106. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 80 wherein the substrate defines an outer cover of the absorbent article, the absorbent article further comprising a liquid permeable liner in generally superposed relationship with the outer cover and adapted for contiguous relationship with the wearer's skin, the absorbent composite being disposed between the liner and the outer cover.
- 107. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 80 wherein the absorbent composite comprises a mixture of adhesive composition and superabsorbent material wherein the mixture is secured to the substrate by said adhesive composition.
- 108. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 80 wherein the adhesive composition is hydrophilic.
- 109. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 80 wherein the adhesive composition is hydrophobic
  - 110. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 80

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wherein the absorbent article has a normalized load value as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test at about 40 percent elongation thereof in at least one of the longitudinal and lateral directions of the article of less than about 400 grams-force per inch.

- 111. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 110 wherein the absorbent article has a normalized load value as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test at about 40 percent elongation thereof in at least one of the longitudinal and lateral directions of the article of less than about 200 grams-force per inch.
- 112. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 80 wherein the absorbent article has a normalized load value as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test at about 100 percent elongation thereof in at least one of the longitudinal and lateral directions of the article of less than about 500 grams-force per inch.
- 113. An absorbent article as set forth in claim 112 wherein the absorbent article has a normalized load value as determined by the Elongation and Recovery Test at about 100 percent elongation thereof in at least one of the longitudinal and lateral directions of the article of less than about 400 grams-force per inch.